

STATE OF WASHINGTON  
HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD

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**RESOLUTION NO. 04-04**

WHEREAS, In 2003, the Legislature passed and the Governor signed into law Senate Bill 5135, a bill dealing with student academic progress; and

WHEREAS, The law directed each public four-year institution and the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC) to develop policies to ensure that undergraduate students complete their degree and certificate programs in a timely manner; and

WHEREAS, These policies were to address students who (1) accumulate more than 125 percent of the credits required to complete their degree or certificate programs; (2) drop more than 25 percent of their course loads; and (3) remain on academic probation for more than one quarter or semester; and

WHEREAS, The law required each public four-year institution and the SBCTC to report to the Higher Education Coordinating Board by January 30, 2004 on the policies adopted regarding student academic progress, including baseline data on the number and characteristics of the students affected by these policies; and

WHEREAS, The Higher Education Coordinating Board was charged with summarizing these reports and developing recommendations for additional legislative action, including whether increased tuition and fees should be uniformly charged to students as an additional incentive for timely completion of degree and certificate programs; and

WHEREAS, The public four-year institutions and the SBCTC submitted their reports and made presentations to the Board on February 17; and

WHEREAS, The Higher Education Coordinating Board reviewed a summary of the institutions' reports on February 17 and submitted the summary to the Legislature's higher education committees on March 1; and

WHEREAS, The Higher Education Coordinating Board submitted the 2004 Interim Strategic Master Plan for Higher Education to the Legislature on December 15 and is in the process of finalizing the 2004 Strategic Master Plan for Higher Education; and



WHEREAS, The 2004 Strategic Master Plan for Higher Education likely will address efficiency in the areas of enrollment, accountability, and performance contracts;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That, at this time, the Higher Education Coordinating Board does not recommend that the Legislature take any specific action regarding student academic progress and that such recommendations, if any, will be included in the 2004 Strategic Master Plan for Higher Education; and


THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Higher Education Coordinating Board believes that the current statutory provision allowing individual institutions to collect tuition surcharges from students who are not making adequate academic progress is sufficient; and

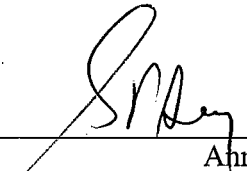
THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That state goals for efficiency in higher education should be expressed broadly to allow colleges and universities to determine how best to make progress toward the goals, while recognizing differences in student needs and the missions of the individual colleges and universities.

Adopted:

March 25, 2004

Attest:

  
Bob Craves, Chair

  
Ann Ramsay-Jenkins, Secretary